SCIENTIFIC NOTE

Nesting habits of *Enchemicrum australe* Pate (Hymenoptera, Sphecidae, Crabroninae).—During early June of 1965 two females of *Enchemicrum australe* were observed nesting in the Lake Texoma area of Marshall County in south central Oklahoma. As far as we know this is the first biological record pertaining to this monotypic genus. The study was made as part of a project at the University of Oklahoma Biological Research Station.

The nests were located in white, firmly packed sand on the margin of a borrow-pit pond some 3 miles north of Willis, Oklahoma on Highway 99. The nest sites were in open areas surrounded at some distance by willow, cottonwood, *Melilotus alba*, *Tamarix pentandra*, and *Lippia incisa*. Specimens of both sexes of *Enchemicrum australe* were first observed at flowers of *Tamarix* growing on lake and pond edges near Willis.

The two burrows were 150 feet apart and on opposite sides of the pond. Each led to a completed cell about 3 inches straight down in moist sand. A second cell had been started by each wasp at the time of capture. The cells contained from 12 to 16 flies each. The size of the prey was relatively uniform, averaging 3.0 mm in length as compared with 5.0 mm for the wasp. Ephydridae of two species, *Paralimna texana* Cresson and *Zeros flavipes* Cresson (W. W. Wirth, det.), and one species of Dolichopodidae, *Medetera californiensis* Wheeler (G. Steyskal, det.) were used as prey, with ephydrids predominating. During the provisioning period, the simple nest entrances were left open at all times. When returning with prey, the wasps flew directly into the opening without alighting on the ground nearby as a preliminary.

No parasites were observed near the nest entrance although mutillids, bombyliids, and sarcophagids were present in the area. On one occasion ants, *Iridomyrmex pruinosus analis* (E. Andre) and *Dorymyrmex pyramicus* (Roger) (D. R. Smith, det.), entered the open nest while the female was searching for prey. When she returned several ants were blocking the entrance. She dropped the fly she was carrying and buzzed toward the entrance several times. Twice she lit briefly about 2 feet away before returning to the nest. At this point she was captured and the nest was excavated. Many ants were in the main gallery and the two flies already provisioned in the second cell were partially destroyed. Nest-closing activities were not observed.

Remarks.—Points which appear to be significant are (1) the simple entrance which is left open during provisioning, (2) the absence of males or parasites in the vicinity of the nests, (3) the direct flight of the wasp into the nest with prey, (4) the size of the prey and the number per cell, (5) the apparent preference for ephydrids and dolichopodids as prey, and (6) the solitary nature of the nests. —R. M. Bohart[1, 2] and J. F. Holland,[3] *University of California, Davis.*

New names for *Chironomus sepultus* Meunier, 1912 and *C. sepultus* Melander, 1949 (non *Chironomus sepultus* Heer, 1849) (Diptera : Chironomidae).—*Chironomus sepultus* Heer was described in 1849 from the "Ter-

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tiargebilde" in Yugoslavia (Die Insectenfauna der Tertiargebilde von Oeningen u. Radoboj in Croatien; Leipzig, Engelman, Bd. 2, Heuschrecken, Florfliegen, Aderflügler, Schmetterlinge und Fliegen, p. 190). In 1912, Fernand Meunier in his studies of copal amber from Zanzibar and Madagascar described and figured a *Chironomus sepultus*, new species (Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 1912 (17): 362–363, fig. 3, from "Copal récent de Madagascar"). In 1949, Axel Leonard Melander in his studies of Miocene Diptera from Florissant, Colorado, also described a *Chironomus sepultus,* new species (American Museum Novitates, 1407: 15). To call attention to and to rectify this homonymity of names, I herewith propose the new names *Chironomus meunieri* for *C. sepultus* Meunier, 1912 (non *C. sepultus* Heer, 1849) and *Chironomus almelanderi* for *C. sepultus* Melander, 1949 (non *C. sepultus* Heer, 1849 and non *C. sepultus* Meunier, 1912).—P. H. Arnaud, Jr., *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.*

***Caryedon gonagra* (Fabricius) established in Mexico (Coleoptera : Bruchidae).**—The groundnut (peanut) bruchid, *Caryedon gonagra* (Fabricius), is a serious pest of stored peanuts, *Arachis hypogaea* Linnaeus, in parts of Africa. Although this bruchid is reported in the literature as being widely distributed in the Old World, there is no mention of its occurrence in North America.

Recently a number of *C. gonagra* were given to me by Dr. L. E. Caltagirone of this department, which he reared from the ripe pods of *Tamarindus indica* Linnaeus (Leguminosae) collected in Tehuantepec, Oaxaca, Mexico, 21 July 1963. These bruchids were identified by Dr. John M. Kingsolver, Insect Identification and Parasite Introduction Research Branch, U. S. Department of Agriculture, who also provided the following records of *C. gonagra* occurring in Mexico: Mexico, D.F., 3 August 1963 and Mexico City (*sic*), 6 September 1963, both intercepted at El Paso, Texas, in *Tamarindus*; Acapulco, 1 October 1965, in *Tamarindus indica,* intercepted at Calexico, California; Rosita, Coahuila, 31 May 1965, one live adult in *Tamarindus indica* intercepted at Eagle Pass, Texas.

Davey (1958, Bull. Entomol. Res., 49 (2): 385–404) suggests *T. indica,* a plant widely distributed in the American tropics and subtropics, as the primary host of *C. gonagra.* The distribution of *T. indica* (see Shreve and Wiggins, 1964. Vegetation and Flora of the Sonoran Desert. Stanford University Press, 1740 pp.) together with the collection records of the bruchid indicate it is well established in Mexico.—Clarence D. Johnson, *Department of Entomology and Parasitology, University of California.*